

## **Two individuals fined for animal related offences**

23 August 2017 – 30-year-old Li Xiaojing and 32-year-old Noorfazanah Bte Abdul Salam were fined \$6,000 and \$3,000 in court today for animal cruelty and pet abandonment respectively.

### ***Animal cruelty case***

2 On 1 February 2017, the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority (AVA) was alerted to a case of a stray cat at Ubi Avenue 1 that had its entire body taped up tightly with masking tape. Our investigations revealed a suspect – Li Xiaojing, who admitted to taping a stray cat that had entered his residence. Li claimed that the cat had urinated in his residence and he had taped it to facilitate its removal from his residence.

3 The cat was subsequently found by a member of the public who brought the cat to a veterinary clinic. It had to be anaesthetised before all the masking tape could be removed. No physical injuries were sustained by the cat from the incident. It has been successfully rehomed.

### ***Pet abandonment case***

4 On 23 November 2016, AVA was alerted to a case of a mixed breed cat that had been allegedly abandoned in a pet carrier at Sumang Walk. Investigations identified the cat's owner to be Noorfazanah Bte Abdul Salam. Noorfazanah had earlier brought the cat to the veterinarian on 22 November 2016 but as she could not afford the treatment, she brought it back home. Later the same day, she abandoned her pet cat at Sumang Walk

5           The cat was in need of urgent veterinary attention when she was found by a member of the public. It has since been treated and was cared by SPCA until it was successfully rehomed.

***Animal cruelty and pet abandonment are illegal***

6           AVA investigates all animal welfare/cruelty feedback, including pet abandonment, and will take the necessary enforcement action. Individuals who abandon their pets are liable to a maximum fine of \$10,000 and/or 12 months jail term for first convictions. Individuals who commit animal cruelty are liable to a maximum fine of \$15,000 and/or 18 months jail term for first convictions.

7           Safeguarding animal welfare is a shared social responsibility that needs the cooperation of all stakeholders, including the public. While AVA continues to ensure that the necessary enforcement action is taken and to raise awareness on animal welfare, members of the public can play their part by being vigilant. We urge members of the public to promptly report cases of animal cruelty or pet abandonment to AVA via our 24-hour hotline, 1800-476-1600 or via our website. Photographic and/or video graphic evidence will help us in our investigations. All information shared with AVA will be held in the strictest confidence.

**Issued by the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore**

*23 August 2017*